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Monthly Bank
Clearings

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SEPTEMBER BANK CLEARINGS RESUME AN UPWARD TREND

NEW YORK, December 15--Bank clearings in the twenty-six leading centers rose 2.3 per cent in September to \$4,400,436,814,000 and in the process recovered part of the 7.0 per cent drop to \$4,302,855,705,000 in August, reports Dun & Bradstreet. Although check transactions did not return to the record \$4.3 trillion achieved in July, they maintained a 15.5 per cent rate of growth over the \$3,809,301,981,000^R in the comparable month of 1980.

In New York, September checks processed edged up to \$4,125,633,751,000, a 2.1 per cent increase over August's \$4,039,076,846,000 and held a 16.0 per cent margin over the \$3,555,765,999,000 cleared in September 1980.

In the twenty-five centers outside of New York, September's volume of check activity, \$274,803,063,000, rose 4.2 per cent over the \$264,778,859,000 cleared in August, and rose twice as sharply, 8.4 per cent, over the \$253,535,982,000^R cleared a year ago in the comparable month. Seattle, Houston and Buffalo experienced the greatest gains over last year's activity, while Minneapolis, San Francisco and St. Louis had the largest downhill slides.

For the first nine months of 1981, bank clearings in the twenty-six leading centers aggregated \$37,874,095,080,000, climbing 18.2 per cent above the \$32,040,035,512,000^R check turnover in the comparable nine months of 1980. Buffalo led all cities in the rate of increase, followed by Houston. Of the eight cities experiencing a downward trend, Cleveland had the largest drop in check clearings--6.0 per cent less than in the first three quarters a year earlier.

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(Statistical tables enclosed.)

2. MONTHLY BANK CLEARING REPORT
from Business Economics Division of Dun & Bradstreet, Inc.

Monthly Comparisons of Bank Clearings by Cities
(in thousands of dollars)

	September 1981	September 1980	% Change	August 1981
Boston.....	\$ 15,061,170	\$ 13,313,445	+ 13.1	\$ 14,184,668
Philadelphia.....	7,478,453	7,240,697*	+ 3.3	7,612,501
Buffalo.....	8,940,699	6,496,799	+ 37.6	8,338,030
Pittsburgh.....	12,609,796	10,987,283	+ 14.8	12,532,237
Cleveland.....	7,299,641	7,485,766	- 2.5	6,987,054
Cincinnati.....	4,895,497	4,905,961	- 0.2	5,061,770
Baltimore.....	5,496,021	5,437,208	+ 1.1	5,308,530
Richmond.....	2,827,699	2,880,207	- 1.8	2,748,960
Atlanta.....	19,554,764	16,212,713	+ 20.6	18,835,557
New Orleans.....	4,584,600	4,031,489	+ 13.7	4,432,880
Memphis.....	2,574,134	2,450,664	+ 5.0	2,464,866
Chicago.....	23,194,298	22,951,779	+ 1.1	21,309,988
Detroit.....	15,567,968	15,309,042	+ 1.7	15,940,365
St. Louis.....	5,322,639	5,591,550	- 4.8	5,232,079
Louisville.....	3,356,285	3,330,977	+ 0.8	3,278,744
Minneapolis.....	8,014,488	8,461,626	- 5.3	7,880,756
Kansas City.....	7,483,616	7,148,483	+ 4.7	7,230,661
Omaha.....	2,615,146	2,595,824	+ 0.7	2,502,864
Denver.....	7,926,694	6,701,815	+ 18.3	7,465,180
Dallas.....	15,603,444	13,675,456	+ 14.1	15,435,479
Houston.....	22,810,479	15,110,753	+ 51.0	19,574,415
Los Angeles.....	35,622,792	36,464,743	- 2.3	34,343,066
San Francisco.....	25,162,103	26,484,156	- 5.0	24,802,838
Portland, Ore.....	4,046,779	3,834,534	+ 5.5	3,871,742
Seattle.....	6,753,858	4,433,012	+ 52.4	6,403,629
Total 25 Cities.....	\$ 274,803,063	\$ 253,535,982*	+ 8.4	\$ 263,778,859
New York.....	4,125,633,751	3,555,765,999	+ 16.0	4,039,076,846
Total 26 Cities.....	\$4,400,436,814	\$3,809,301,981*	+ 15.5	\$4,302,855,705

*Revised

3. MONTHLY BANK CLEARING REPORT

SUMMARY OF BANK CLEARINGS--MONTHLY--1978 TO DATE (Millions of Dollars)

TOTAL 26 UNITED STATES CITIES

	1981	1980	1979	1978
January.....	\$ 4,048,656	\$ 3,408,938	\$ 2,543,050	\$ 2,013,134
February.....	3,780,417	3,183,684	2,201,345	1,775,795
March.....	4,351,886	3,701,171	2,504,606	2,058,677
April.....	3,996,219	3,473,593	2,492,572	1,960,358
May.....	3,949,348	3,472,386	2,587,251	2,040,861
June.....	4,415,337	3,549,986	2,793,474	2,259,707
July.....	4,628,939	3,842,801	2,942,097	2,115,083
August.....	4,302,856	3,598,173	2,913,636	2,360,434
September.....	4,400,437	3,809,302	2,815,084	2,190,671
October.....		4,273,809	3,418,621	2,474,177
November.....		3,500,550	2,943,807	2,330,595
December.....		3,893,509	2,836,750	2,173,252
Total.....		\$ 43,707,902	\$ 32,992,293	\$ 25,752,744

NEW YORK CITY

January.....	\$ 3,790,644	\$ 3,143,672	\$ 2,290,061	\$ 1,799,114
February.....	3,550,702	2,946,406	1,993,265	1,590,570
March.....	4,079,325	3,446,343	2,258,141	1,834,380
April.....	3,717,162	3,208,394	2,245,252	1,744,950
May.....	3,696,238	3,231,368	2,330,772	1,807,522
June.....	4,131,421	3,305,377	2,551,498	2,022,635
July.....	4,346,966	3,582,275	2,690,698	1,896,976
August.....	4,039,077	3,360,502	2,663,808	2,121,925
September.....	4,125,634	3,555,766	2,583,063	1,971,098
October.....		4,000,977	3,144,077	2,237,182
November.....		3,267,920	2,703,563	2,103,630
December.....		3,613,262	2,592,912	1,940,964
Total.....	\$	\$ 40,662,262	\$ 30,047,110	\$ 23,070,946

TOTAL 25 CITIES EXCLUDING NEW YORK CITY

January.....	\$ 258,012	\$ 265,266	\$ 252,989	\$ 214,020
February.....	229,715	237,278	208,080	185,225
March.....	272,561	254,828	246,465	224,297
April.....	279,057	265,199	247,320	215,408
May.....	253,110	241,018	256,479	233,339
June.....	283,916	244,609	241,976	237,072
July.....	281,973	260,526	251,399	218,107
August.....	263,779	237,671	249,828	238,509
September.....	274,803	253,536	232,021	219,573
October.....		272,832	274,544	236,995
November.....		232,630	240,244	226,965
December.....		280,247	243,838	232,288
Total.....		\$ 3,045,640	\$ 2,945,183	\$ 2,681,798